

REMARKS

The Office Action dated April 5, 2006, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claim 46 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added.

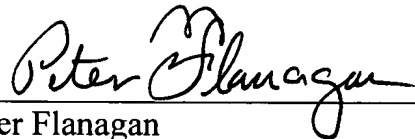
Claims 3-4, 8, 11, 14-23, 25, 27, 29-39, 41, 43, and 45 are pending in the application, and have been allowed. Applicants thank the Examiner for this indication of allowability. Claim 46 was rejected, but has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Thus, its rejection is moot.

Only allowed claims 3-4, 8, 11, 14-23, 25, 27, 29-39, 41, 43, and 45 remain in the application. Timely issuance of the application as a patent is respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, Applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Petition for Extension of Time